M.Phil/Ph.D degree holders with 55% marks in PG are languishing without jobs; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPTT. OF MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b): University Grants Commission (UGC) Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for appointment of teachers in Universities and colleges notified in 1991 and 1995, *inter-alia*, provide that the candidates for the post of lecturer must have good academic record with atleast 55% marks or an equivalent grade at the Master's degree level in the relevant subject. The candidates, besides fulfilling these qualifications, should also have cleared the eligibility test for lecturers conducted by UGC, CSIR or similar tests accredited by UGC, or should have submitted their Ph.D. thesis or completed M.Phil degree by 31.12.93. The cut-off date of 31.12.93 was presribed as a transitory provisions for the benefit of those candidates who were pursuing their M.Phil or Ph.D. courses in 1991 when the above UGC Regulations were notified in the first instance.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. UGC Regulations notified in 1991 provide that the Universities can relax the prescribed qualifications with the prior approval of UGC on a case to case basis.

News item captioned "Railways hit by twin crunch"

3183. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Railways hit by twin crunch" as reported in the Statesman, dated the 5th July, 1996;

(b) if so, whether due to hike in prices of petroleum products and hike in power tariff by State Electricity Boards (SEBs), the various projects of Railways have been affected; and

(c) if so, whether Railways now propose any concrete steps to continue their Projects, despite financial crunch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As the necessary budget provision on account of hike in cost of fuel already exists, any adverse effect on the various Railways Projects included in the Railway Budget for 1996-97 is unlikely.

Neglect of Kerala by U.G.C.

3184. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMNT be pleased to state whether there was any member at any time in U.G.C. from the Universities of Kerala, if not, the reasons for Kerala's neglect in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPTT. OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): Members of University Grants Commission (UGC) are appointed keeping in view the composition of the Commission laid down in Section 5 of the UGC Act and not on the basis of regional or any other considerations. Prof. George Jacob, Chairman of UGC in 1973-74 and Prof. K.T. Chandy, Member, UGC in 1972 were from Kerala.

Extention of New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi express upto Nagpur

3185. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express train upto Nagpur in view of popular demand;

(b) if so, by when Government propose to do so;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government will review its decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Distance between New Delhi-Nagpur is too long to run Shatabdi Express which is a day time Intercity Express.

(d) Does not arise.

Import to toxic wastes

3186. SHRIMATI VEENA VARMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the Times of India, dated July 21st, 1996, to the effect that while Government have licensed only seven companies to import toxic wastes, as many as 151 Indian companies have been found to be freely importing such toxic wastes;

(b) how much of toxic wastes of Lead, Zinc, Aluminium, Plastics, etc. have been imported during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(c) what regulations govern such imports and what steps are taken to curb such imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPTTAIN JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information on the actual imports based on the consignments cleared by the Custom's Department, is compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence (DGCIS), Calcutta, The details are given in statement (*see* below).

(c) The import of hazardous waste is regulated under Rule 11 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. According to these Rules, the import of hazardous wastes from any country to India is not permitted for dumping and disposal, however, import of such wastes is allowed for processing or reuse as raqw materials. This Ministry has given permission to seven importers of hazardous wastes under these rules. In compliance with the orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court, no imports of hazardous wastes are being permitted.

The licence for imports are issued by the Directorate General of Foregin Trade (DGFT). All shipments are cleared based on this licence. Till 29th April, 1995, imports of all wastes were under the Open General Licence (OGL). In April 1995, the Export Import Policy was amended and hazardous wastes were placed on the restricted list. As per the policy, imports are permitted only against a licence and only for the purpose of processing or reuse. Such wastes whould now be requiring a licence for imports.

Statement

Import of Copper, Lead, Zinc and Plastic wastes for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 (upto January 1996) as supplied by Directorate General Commercial intelligence

1.	Lead Slag	1994-95	2497804
		1995-96	1889312
2.	Lead Residue	1994-95	7575025
		1995-96	7235665